

stop China from cheating American workers by manipulating its currency, evening the playing field for American exporters and saving jobs.

We passed a bill to modernize the air travel system. The FAA reauthorization is so important, creating hundreds of thousands of jobs but would also keep passengers safer and save money on travel time.

We passed a measure that would protect lives by keeping our foods safe from contamination. The House Republicans are refusing to take up these, period. The House Republicans blocked many reasonable jobs proposals with a proven track record of success. They are simply too busy rooting for our economy to fail and pursuing an extreme social agenda to work with Democrats to create jobs. That will not stop the Democrats from doing everything in our power to get the economy back on track. That is why Senator CASEY has worked to put money back into the pockets of middle-class workers and small businesses by extending and expanding the payroll tax cut.

This legislation cuts taxes for 160 million American workers, saving the average family \$1,500 each year. Those families will have more money to spend on their local economy, grocery stores, pharmacies, and giving communities across the country a financial shot in the arm.

The proposal would give payroll tax cuts to businesses, including 50,000 businesses in Nevada. More than 1.2 million Nevada workers would benefit from the payroll tax cut this year. Under our proposal, they will get even greater tax relief next year.

Payroll tax cuts have been a boon to the economy in every State in the Nation. In Kentucky, for example, the home of my friend the minority leader, 2.1 million workers took home \$1.2 billion in payroll tax cuts this year alone. That is why the minority leader said in 2009 that a payroll tax cut "would put a lot of money back in the hands of businesses and in the hands of individuals." The average Kentucky family will keep \$1,330 of their hard-earned money next year under our expanded payroll tax credit, and 70,000 firms in Kentucky will benefit from these tax cuts.

Senator McCONNELL said in 2009: "Republicans, generally speaking, from Maine to Mississippi, like tax relief." Yet the Republicans already appear poised to block this legislation.

Let's be clear on what a "no" vote on this proposal means. It is a vote to deny tax relief to millions of businesses. It is a vote to raise taxes for 120 million families by nearly \$1,000. The Republicans who vote no will literally be taking money out of the pockets of middle-class families.

Once upon a time, Republicans rushed to cut taxes, regardless of which tax cut it was and whether it added trillions to the deficit. For example, the Bush tax cuts that we hear so much about added trillions of dollars to our

deficit—and it is obvious what was going on during the Bush cuts—and now these tax cuts have not created jobs that amount to anything. Today, they are lining up against a new tax cut, my Republican friends, to put money back in the pockets of the middle class, ensure that businesses have more cash to hire new workers and get our economy moving immediately.

I hope Republicans will now start working with us to pass a tax cut for 160 million American workers and nearly every business in America. As my friend the Republican leader said: "Republicans, generally speaking, from Maine to Mississippi, like tax relief." I hope they remember what the Republican leader said time and time again.

Will the Chair announce the business for the day.

#### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period of morning business for 1 hour, with Senators permitted to speak therein up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees, with the majority controlling the first half and the Republicans controlling the final half.

The Senator from Illinois.

#### TRIBUTE TO MAGGIE DALEY

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a few moments in the Senate to pay tribute to a remarkable woman. Maggie Daley served with dignity and grace for 22 years as Chicago's first lady. She died on Thanksgiving evening after a nearly decade-long struggle with breast cancer. She was at home, surrounded by her loving family. There is a sad but fitting poignancy to the date. People in Chicago and far beyond have so many reasons to be thankful for the life of this exceptional woman. Maggie Daley was an adopted daughter of Chicago, but no native-born Chicagoan could have loved the city more or served it better.

Last May, as her husband Rich prepared to step down as Chicago's mayor, the Chicago Tribune wrote an article about what Maggie Daley meant to Chicago. The first paragraph put it well: "There has never been and may never be a Chicago first lady of greater impact, influence and inspiration than Maggie Daley."

Maggie was smart, funny, tireless, amazingly modest, and deeply compassionate. She was also a very private person. Yet she still managed to touch the lives of so many people. The love Chicagoans feel for Maggie Daley was reflected in the faces of the people who

waited in a line over a block long, in the rain, this last Sunday, to attend her wake at the Chicago Cultural Center—incidentally, a building which she worked hard to restore.

I stood in that line and talked to many people. Some of them I knew from my public life and their public lives but many just private citizens, some of whom had met her briefly, some who had worked with her for years, but they all came to pay tribute to her. Among them was Hazel Holt, 74 years old. The Chicago Tribune described Mrs. Holt as a person who decided to drive:

... downtown in her church finery from the Gresham neighborhood on the South Side, absorbed the cost of parking, rode the bus and then walked on a damp, chilly November day to the wake.

Mrs. Holt said Maggie Daley "built connections to the city's people with her commitment to charities assisting children, as well as her public poise in the face of cancer that would claim her life." She went on to say to the reporter:

I just loved this lady. I wish I had one-quarter of her grace. She was a role model for a lot of us.

That is a feeling shared by many of us in Chicago and beyond. Upon hearing of Maggie's death, Nancy Brinker, the founder and CEO of the Susan G. Komen Foundation for the Cure, said: "We've lost a real general."

Loretta and I were blessed to have known Maggie personally, and Rich has been my friend, colleague, and even boss for decades. Yesterday morning, I attended Maggie's funeral at the old St. Patrick's Church in the neighborhood parish in Chicago. I remember the last mass I attended there with Maggie and Rich Daley. It was St. Patrick's Day. It is a big day in Chicago on St. Patrick's Day and ground zero for the celebration of old St. Pat.

It was clear Maggie's health was flagging. She had to sit through most of the service. She came to the front pew in a wheelchair. But all those struggles were quickly forgotten as her children and grandkids were seated next to her, and we heard from the back of the church, after the mass, that sound we all waited for, the famous Shannon Rovers bagpipe band from the Bridgeport section of Chicago. They come marching up the center aisle with those bagpipes blasting. It is a moment I will never forget. Maggie's grandkids were nervously waiting, expectantly waiting for the sound of the bagpipes, scrambling all over the pew and all over Maggie and Rich to get to the point where they could peer out down the center aisle to watch the bagpipers come away.

I looked at Maggie and Rich at that moment and I saw them beaming with the kind of joy that loving parents and grandparents just live for. Maggie was a patron saint of social causes, but her deepest convictions were to God and family. Maggie and Rich Daley had been blessed with four children: Patrick, Nora, Kevin, and Lally. Years

ago, she made her husband keep a promise to reserve Sundays exclusively for private family time. So the bottom line was this: One could ask Mayor Daley 6 days of the week to go anywhere in Chicago or anywhere else but Sunday, no way. He made a promise to Maggie that that was family day. It is a promise he always kept, and we respect him for it.

Two weeks ago, the family announced that their youngest daughter Lally had moved the date of her wedding from New Year's Eve to late November so Maggie could attend. It was a signal that the end was near, but she was at that wedding. There she was in her wheelchair with that irrepressible smile, a beaming mother, celebrating her daughter's happiness. It is quintessential Maggie.

Part of the reason Maggie Daley found such joy in life is that she understood what a fragile gift life can be. In 1981, her third child, Kevin, died from spina bifida just shy of his third birthday. After Kevin's death, she found healing and meaning in reaching out to help others and especially in volunteering to work for kids with disabilities. Someone once called her the godmother of all Chicago's children. Mayor Rahm Emanuel said on her passing that Mayor Rich Daley may have been the head of the city, but Maggie Daley was the heart of Chicago.

In 1991, Maggie and Lois Weisberg, Chicago's long-time Commissioner of Cultural Affairs and an icon in her own right, began something called Gallery 37. There was an abandoned piece of real estate in the middle of downtown Chicago that had been lost in legal and court battles for decades. So Maggie and Lois decided to set up a tent on this old plot of land that was sitting vacant and create Gallery 37, which was an art gallery for kids. All across Chicago they invited kids—grade school and high school—to submit their artwork. We all went down there for the joy of that moment, of seeing the kids and the pride they had, and some of the magnificent artwork they produced, all because Maggie and Lois decided here was an opportunity they couldn't miss.

That program later morphed or matured into an amazing program called After School Matters. Maggie thought: If I can occupy these kids with art and music and drama and theater and chorus during the school year, let's do it after school—a vulnerable time for many kids. So over two decades, Maggie Daley nurtured the artistic talents of thousands of Chicago high school students and became a model for programs in many cities across the country and as far away as London and Australia.

The last time Maggie was in this building was in my office. She came upstairs to visit and to lobby me for money for After School Matters. Needless to say, she won my vote and my support.

Maggie Daley believed that art could change lives. She believed that artistic

talent could exist in children from the Robert Taylor Homes in Chicago as surely as it could from children in better, more wealthy neighborhoods, and that all young people should have the opportunity to develop their talents together. That is why After School Matters has become such an amazing program.

Maggie Daley also served on the auxiliary board of the Art Institute and the Women's Board of the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. She was a very busy person.

It was a happy accident that Maggie Daley came to Chicago. Margaret Ann Corbett Daley was born and grew up in a suburb of Pittsburgh. She was the youngest of Patrick and Elizabeth Corbett's seven kids and their only girl. After graduating in 1965 from the University of Dayton, she entered a management training program for Xerox and her job took her to Chicago. She promised her dad she was going to stay in Chicago for 2 years and then come back to Pittsburgh. But in 1970 she met a young attorney named Rich Daley at a Christmas party. They decided to date, got engaged, and were married for nearly 40 years.

The average survival rate for Maggie's form of breast cancer that has spread beyond the breast and lymph nodes is very brief. Maggie Daley lived with this incurable illness for 9 years. Her doctors called it a medical miracle. She endured years of painful treatments and faced her cancer with courage, dignity, grace, and good humor. As the cancer progressed, she relied on crutches, a walker, and eventually even a wheelchair, but the smile never quit.

She donated generously to help open the Maggie Daley Center for Women's Cancer Care at Northwestern Memorial Hospital last year. The center helps other women facing cancer by providing access to doctors and important support services.

Loretta and I obviously offer our deepest condolences to Rich Daley, his wonderful children and their families—all of the Daley children and grandchildren. We trust that time and treasured memories will ease the great sorrow they obviously feel. They can also take comfort in knowing that the legacy of Margaret Corbett Daley can be seen and felt all over her adopted city of Chicago.

Maggie Daley's dedication to the arts will continue in part through the work of her daughters, Nora Daley Conroy, who chairs Chicago's Cultural Affairs Advisory Committee, and, of course, Lally, who will continue in her mom's tradition. Her commitment to education will live on in the lives of the young people she has touched. Her courage will endure in women she inspired who can now find medical care at the center she helped establish.

Maggie Daley was a modest person. She didn't like to talk about herself; she preferred speaking of others. Two years after she was diagnosed with can-

cer, she gave an interview to the Chicago Sun Times in which she hinted about how she felt about the future. This is what she said:

I try not to waste any time. At the end of the day, what's important is if you think that the people around you have maybe had a better day because of some of the things you've done.

By that standard and so many others, Maggie Daley lived a good and full life. She did much good, and she will be greatly missed.

#### PAYROLL TAX CUT EXTENSION

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I will only take a moment to say that we have an opportunity now, before we leave for Christmas, to not forget people across America who are struggling in this economy.

A payroll tax cut, instituted by President Obama and supported by Congress, basically gives more working families a little bit extra money each month. For the average working family in Illinois, it is about \$1,500 a year. For some of us in the Senate, that may not seem like an enormous sum of money, but for families struggling paycheck to paycheck it makes a big difference.

We need to make certain we restore this payroll tax cut which is going to expire at the end of this year. How terrible it would be for us to impose an additional burden on working families, to impose a new payroll tax on working families when they are struggling in this economy that needs their spending power. Every economist taking a look at this has said the two best things Congress can do to help this economy move forward and not fall back is to make sure this payroll tax cut is protected and that this new payroll tax is not imposed on families; and, secondly, to extend unemployment benefits for the millions across America who are still struggling to find a job.

We need to call on our colleagues—Democrats and Republicans. For goodness sake, how can we in good conscience go home to celebrate the holiday season with our families and say to the millions of working families across America: Incidentally, on January 1, your taxes are going up. That is wrong. It is not fair. Whatever our rationale politically, it makes no sense in the family rooms and neighborhoods of America that we would impose a new payroll tax on working families who are working so hard to keep their heads above water. Before we leave, let us follow the lead of Senator BOB CASEY of Pennsylvania who is sponsoring this legislation. Let us extend this payroll tax cut to help working families and help our economy. We should not go home for Christmas without that extension and without some help when it comes to extending unemployment benefits.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Arkansas.